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a flat shaping surface area and a pair of opposite side suction chambers disposed one on each side of the central suction chamber and having respective curved shaping surface areas. First, a vacuum is developed in the central suction chamber to attract a central area of the sheet of glass against the flat shaping surface area thereof, and then a vacuum is developed in the opposite side suction chambers to attract opposite side areas of the sheet of glass respectively against the curved shaping surface areas.